

Rural District Council

— OF —

East and West Flegg.

REPORT

— OF THE —

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1921.

John Buckle, Printer, Yarmouth.

Rural District Council of East & West Flegg.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1921.

*Flegg Burgh, Norfolk,
May, 1922.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report upon the conditions of Public Health and Sanitation prevailing throughout the above-named District during the year 1921.

The said District has an area of nearly thirty thousand acres and a population of over ten thousand persons. It is made up of first-rate arable land, excellent grazing marshes and several fine sheets of water known as Burgh, Filby, Ormesby and Somerton Broads. It is an irregular triangle in shape, and is almost entirely surrounded by water, a narrow strip of land at Somerton alone preventing it being a complete island. Upon two sides of the triangle are the Rivers Bure and Thurne, and upon the third the sea. The District is divided into the following villages:—

East Flegg:

Caister.
Filby.
Ormesby St. Margaret with Scratby.
Ormesby St. Michael.
Runham.
Stokesby with Herringby.
Thrigby.

West Flegg:

Burgh St. Margaret with Billockby.
Clippesby.
Hemsby.
Martham.
Ashby, Oby and Thurne.
Rolleby.
East and West Somerton.
Winterton.

The principal industry is agriculture, and nine-tenths of the population are engaged, directly or indirectly, in that pursuit.

Population Census, 1921: 10,301.—East Flegg, 5,097; West Flegg, 5,204.

The amount of Poor Law Relief: £1,777 1s. 5d.

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically speaking, no change has taken place respecting the supply of water in the District, with the exception that owing to the drought of this last year, the water in some wells in various parishes has been very low, and in one or two instances it has been difficult to obtain a supply at all.

There has been no development in the laying of water mains by the Great Yarmouth Water Works Company during the year in any of the parishes not yet supplied by them, but new connections have been made to their existing mains, giving new services to houses in the parishes of Caister and Ormesby.

Samples of water were taken from wells where contamination was suspected, and submitted for analysis, the results being as follows: Original samples, 8; 6 good, 2 bad. On second analysis, after cleansing the well, the latter two were reported good.

DRAINS AND SEWERS.

Unfortunately I am not able to report any permanent improvement in the condition of the sewers in the parish of Caister-on-Sea; in fact, they are in a bad condition, as I reported last year, and I am afraid before long will be worse, especially the Manor House Estate sewer where erosion of the beach is taking place.

On the Town Drains in the above-mentioned parish slight improvements have been made by providing manholes of up-to-date construction and properly trapped stone-ware, pot gullies, to replace defective and offensive cesspools and road catchpits connected with them.

This Town Drain during the summer months was flushed out once weekly by water supplied from the Great Yarmouth Water Works Company's main. The other Town Drains in the several parishes have been periodically inspected, and when found necessary have been cleaned out.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The general condition of the closet accommodation in the District is pretty good.

The approximate number of E.C.'s. is 2,500

 ,, ,, W.C.'s. ,, 97

Six new closets with fixed receptacles have been erected during the year to replace defective ones.

Eleven closets have been repaired, bins concreted and cement rendered and brick risers provided, and sunk middens have been abolished.

Three water closets have been installed to replace earth closets.

SCAVENGING.

As far as the general scavenging of the parishes in the District is concerned, there has been no alteration from the method adopted in previous years.

Generally speaking, there has been no cause for complaint, but in the largest parish in the District, viz., Caister-on-Sea, difficulty has arisen at times on the height of the visiting season in getting some of the earth closets emptied as often as required, but this was only in exceptional cases.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Inspection of premises made ...	...	...	...	218
Visits to Schools ...	...	...	...	19
Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds ...	...	...	...	80
Inspections of Factories and Workshops ...	...	...	...	31
Notices served (preliminary 43, legal 2)	...	...	...	45
Nuisances abated through notices served ...	...	...	...	73
Nuisances abated without notice ...	...	...	...	20
Legal proceedings taken ...	...	...	...	Nil

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES AND REPAIRS DEALT WITH.

Overflowing cesspools emptied and cleansed ...	...	...	3
Choked drains cleared and cleansed ...	...	...	25
Closets insufficient and dilapidated, new closets provided ...	...	...	6
Earth closets and privies defective, bins leaky, closets provided with concrete floors, brick risers, and bins cement rendered ...	...	...	11
Sunk middens abolished ...	...	...	2
New E.C. pails provided to replace defective ones ...	...	...	2
Foul ditches cleansed ...	...	...	5
New drainage provided to houses and school at Stokesby ...	...	...	8
Drains repaired ...	...	...	5
Cesspool converted to septic tank and coke breeze filter added ...	...	...	1
Defective pumps to wells repaired ...	...	...	2
Wells cleaned out and cleansed ...	...	...	3
Water samples taken for analysis ...	...	...	10
New water supplies laid on to premises, where the well water was polluted, from the Great Yarmouth Water Works Company's mains ...	...	...	2
Accumulations of foul refuse and slop water nuisances ...	...	...
Foul ponds cleansed ...	...	...	5
Dirty cowsheds cleansed and limewashed ...	...	...	9
Funigation of infected premises ...	...	...	21
Funigation of public conveyance ...	...	...	1
Animals improperly kept as to be a nuisance ...	...	...	3
Dirty premises cleaned and cleansed ...	...	...	4

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The dairies and cowsheds in the District have been inspected at intervals, special attention being paid to those registered under the Orders of 1885, etc. In nine cases verbal notice had to be given for limewashing to be done and the premises generally cleansed. These notices were immediately complied with.

Three dairies and cowsheds were registered during the year.

FUMIGATION OF PREMISES.

Twenty-one premises have been fumigated by means of formalin gas and liquid formalin where cases of infectious disease has occurred.

One public conveyance was fumigated after removing an infectious case to the Hospital.

There is no provision made by the Local Authority of this District for steam disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are eleven slaughter-houses in the District, which are periodically inspected. They are brick built, with cement rendered walls and concrete floors, well ventilated, drained, and always found to be kept in a cleanly condition.

No public abattoir in the District.

BAKE-HOUSES.

There are five bake-houses in the District, which I am pleased to be able to report have always upon inspection been found to be kept in a clean and wholesome condition.

No underground eake-houses in the District.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Publie Health Amendment Aet, 1890, adopted 3rd September, 1907.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, adopted 10th February, 1914.

Building Bye-laws allowed by Local Government Board, 18th March, 1908.

Tents, Vans and Sheds Bye-laws allowed by Local Government Board, 14th December, 1908.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations, 11th June, 1907.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

One Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor, and holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

- (a) Total, 8.
- (b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme, nil.

UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

INSPECTION:—

1. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects ...	...	71
2. Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under Housing (Inspection of District) Regulation, 1910 ...	...	71
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	...	Nil
4. Number of dwelling houses (exelusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ... ...	...	29

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT NOTICE:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal aaction by Local Authority or their Officers	Nil
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS:—

A. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SEC. 28, H. & T.P. ACT, 1919—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) By owners ... ... ...	...	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ...	...	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuanee of deelaration by owner of intention to close		Nil

B. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	18
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2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied—						
(a) By owners	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SEC. 17 & 18 OF THE H. & T.P. ACT, 1909—

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
2. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined and houses made fit	...	...	...	...	...	4
4. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
5. Number of dwelling houses demolished under Demolition Order	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Unfortunately, owing to the action of the Government, the proposed Housing Scheme of the District Council is in abeyance, which makes it very difficult to deal with overcrowding owing to the scarcity of vacant cottages.

BIRTHS.

During the year the total number of births was 186. East Flegg, 96, West Flegg, 90.

EAST FLEGG.				WEST FLEGG.		
Caister	...	...	47	Winterton	...	...
Filby	...	...	13	Somerton, West	...	8
Mautby	...	...	2	Somerton, East	...	2
Ormesby St. Margaret	...	20		Repps	...	6
Ormesby St. Michael	...	4		Thurne	...	5
Runham	...	5		Rollesby	...	6
Stokesby	...	4		Martham	...	28
Thrigby	...	1		Burgh	...	4
				Clippesby	...	5
				Hemsby	...	10
				Oby	...	1
				Ashby	...	Nil
				Billockby	...	2
			96			90

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 20 cases of infectious diseases reported during the year 1921.

Scarlet fever	...	...	...	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	9
Enteric fever	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
				—	
				20	
				—	
Winterton: Diphtheria	...	1	Caister: Scarlet fever	...	1
Martham: Scarlet fever	...	3	Enteric fever	...	1
Somerton: Scarlet fever	...	2	Erysipelas	...	1
Rollesby: Scarlet fever	...	1	Stokesby: Diphtheria	...	4
Filby: Scarlet fever	...	1	Runham: Diphtheria	...	1
Diphtheria	...	2	Cerebro-spinal meningitis	...	1
			Mautby: Diphtheria	...	1

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied by the District Council. Swabs are also taken in all cases of diphtheria, and no child is allowed to return to school before a negative result has been obtained.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The Council has no scheme.

VENEREAL DISEASE.—The Council has no scheme.

SMALLPOX.—No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The District Council arranged with the Flegg Nursing Association to carry out the necessary work.

Causes of Death in East and West Flegg Rural District, 1921.

CIVILIANS ONLY.

Cause of Death.		Males.	Females.	Cause of Death.		Males.	Females.
1 ALL CAUSES ...	...	50	66	25 Acute and chronic nephritis ...	...	0	1
2 Enteric fever	...	0	0	26 Puerperal sepsis ...	...	0	0
3 Small-pox	...	0	0	27 Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	0	0
4 Measles	...	0	0	28 Congenital debility and mal-formation, premature birth	2	4	
5 Scarlet fever	...	0	0	29 Suicide ...	...	0	0
6 Whooping cough	...	0	0	30 Other deaths from violence ...	...	2	0
7 Diphtheria	...	0	0	31 Other defined diseases ...	...	17	17
8 Influenza	...	1	2	32 Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	0	0	
9 Encephalitis lethargica	...	0	0	SPECIAL CAUSES (included above)			
10 Meningococcal meningitis	...	1	0	Poliomyelitis ...	...	0	0
11 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	5		Polioencephalitis ...	...	0	0
12 Other tuberculous diseases	2	0		TOTAL DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of age ...		2	7
13 Cancer, malignant disease	7	13		Illegitimate ...	...	0	0
14 Rheumatic fever	...	1	1	TOTAL BIRTHS ...		101	85
15 Diabetes	...	0	1	Legitimate ...	...	98	80
16 Cerebral haemorrhage, &c.	...	5	7	Illegitimate ...	...	3	5
17 Heart disease	...	6	7	POPULATION ...		10,250	
18 Arterio-sclerosis	...	0	0				
19 Bronchitis	...	1	5				
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	0	2				
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	0	0				
22 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	0					
23 Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	0	1					
24 Appendicitis and typhlitis	0	0					
Cirrhosis of liver	...	0	0				

In conclusion, I desire to congratulate your Council upon another successful year and to thank you all for the very courteous manner you have always received any suggestions I have brought before your notice and the confidence you place in my opinion. I should also like to thank Mr. Hobbs, your Inspector of Nuisances, for the great assistance he has rendered me.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM ROYDEN, M.A. (Cantab.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EAST AND WEST FLEGG RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

